

VI. CITY-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS



While the Strategic Initiatives presented in the previous Chapter outline the objectives of the plan, the further defining of priorities is needed in order to eventually identify specific projects. The Plan establishes both Citywide and geographic Subarea priority recommendations. The intent of the Citywide recommendations is to list the priorities that are accurate needs all across the community. Public, staff, and City Council input has been used to identify these recommendations, which are presented in no particular order. The related Strategic Initiative is stated at the end of each of the priorities below.

- Enhance the development, renovation, and maintenance of facilities through field operation efficiency, reforestation, public art, etc., especially in neighborhood parks. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Incorporate trends in capital improvement projects and program planning, for example, skate parks, dog parks, intergenerational programs, etc. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Recruit/Train/Retain a knowledgeable and effective workforce. (Strategic Initiatives 1, 3, and 4)
- Expand the Volunteer Services Program to assist in maintenance and enhancement of park facilities. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Complete the 1999 and 2003 Park Improvement Bond Programs by December 2007 to include coordination and partnerships with other city departments. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Coordinate completion of the Sales Tax initiatives to acquire land over the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone and along Leon and Salado Creeks, and the San Antonio River and Medina River by 2015 to include coordination and partnerships with other city departments and outside agencies. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Conserve and protect floodplains as linear greenways/creekways and promote their development into a citywide system of linear greenways that will connect neighborhoods and provide alternative transportation routes and recreation opportunities as appropriate. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Effectively utilize and monitor the Unified Development Code Parkland Dedication Ordinance to ensure the availability of neighborhood parks where development is occurring. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Rehabilitation, maintenance, and operation plans for facilities including, but not limited to, Hemisfair Park, La Villita, Market Square, Community Centers, Golf Courses, Spanish Governor's Palace, etc. (Strategic Initiative 1, 6)
- Identify and document archeological, cultural, historical, and artistic resources in San Antonio's parks by the use of volunteers, interns, or other available means. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Ensure the rehabilitation of park and recreation facilities to assure safety, security, accessibility & quality programming for users through the capital budget process, CDBG and park bond programs. (Strategic Initiative 1, 4)
- Improve response times on public and internal work requests for repair and replacement of park facilities. (Strategic Initiative 1, 4)
- Prepare and implement funding requests based on master development plans for existing and new City parks, providing for varying intensities of development and phasing as appropriate. (Strategic Initiative 1)
- Establish San Antonio River and Creekways projects as major parks, accessible by every citizen. (Strategic Initiatives 1, 2, and 6)
- Provide facilities and programs in underserved and unserved areas. (Strategic Initiative 2)
- Develop a marketing campaign utilizing online reservations systems, customer surveys, internet, all media, and other means to promote and support the use of parks and recreation services, programs, and facilities. (Strategic Initiative 2)
- Expand and publicize all programs available at recreation centers and in park settings in the summer and fall guides, with press releases, brochures, through the Park Bench show, and by other means available. (Strategic Initiative 2)
- Assure a citywide park system that is accessible to everyone regardless of location, physical ability, or income level. (Strategic Initiative 2)

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- Encourage multi-model forms of transportation (pedestrian, bicycle, vehicular, mass transit, etc.) to parks and recreation facilities working with the Public Works Department, VIA, etc.. (Strategic Initiative 2)
- Rehabilitate and upgrade existing facilities to meet current ADA standards to ensure that facilities are accessible to all residents. (Strategic Initiative 2)
- Incorporate life long fitness programs and well being as a priority focus for recreation programs to help coordinate the efforts to prevent obesity, diabetes, and other chronic illnesses for residents of all ages. (Strategic Initiative 2)
- Provide community centers with computers, appropriate software, and other technological resources for staff and citizen use and for programming activities. (Strategic Initiatives 2 and 3)
- Expand activities, facilities, and programs that promote physical activity for all ages, especially our youth. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Continue addressing monitoring standards for Afterschool and Summer youth programs. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Expand existing and develop new volunteer opportunities including docent programs to encourage use and support recreation programs. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Increase Therapeutic Recreation programs for youth, adults, and for seniors. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Develop citywide intergenerational programs that enable residents to bridge with people of different backgrounds and cultures. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Create an ad hoc sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to specifically to assist staff in the assessment and development of new recreation programs. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Elevate and promote the value of visual, fine arts, and cultural arts through programs and services and through active promotion of art in the community centers and park facilities. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Increase the number of learn-to-swim and water aerobics class locations and provide new programs and activities to encourage participation. (Strategic Initiative 3)
- Incorporate the 2002 Park Police Performance Review recommendations and address current and future security needs based on specific demands (creekways/trails, neighborhood and large urban parks, special events, motorized vehicles, etc.) (Strategic Initiative 4)
- Implement appropriate security measures, coordination with other local agencies and law enforcement entities, rapid repair response, and citizen awareness and partnership programs (i.e. "adopt a park"). (Strategic Initiative 4)
- Develop deterrent strategies such as lighting, signage, landscaping, design, etc., at facilities in order to reduce graffiti and vandalism. (Strategic Initiative 4)
- Continue partnerships, consolidations, outsourcing, and multi-purpose utilization of facilities that improve efficiency, service delivery, and funding especially in coordination with school districts. (Strategic Initiative 5)
- Develop a plan that analyzes and makes recommendations on various issues relating to fundraising, grants, evaluation of participation fees, review of resident vs. non-resident fees, sponsorships, partnerships, and other sources for parks and recreation improvements and programs, to include consideration of a grants management position. (Strategic Initiative 5)
- Modernize the revenue collection system for all Divisions and in concert with the Cash Handling Procedures and other City requirements. (Strategic Initiative 5)
- Support the efforts of the San Antonio Parks Foundation to benefit parks and recreation fundraising. (Strategic Initiative 5)
- Coordinate the negotiation and re-negotiation of essential department contracts with the City Attorney's Office and the Contract Services Department. (Strategic Initiative 5)
- Continue to implement and enhance the use of Enterprise Resource Management (ERM) in order to quantify and qualify job tasks, costs, data collection, etc.. (Strategic Initiative 5)

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- Expand cultural, natural, and historical programs offered at community centers and develop new programs at locations not presently offering related activities, to promote the education and appreciation of these resources. (Strategic Initiative 6)
- Expand the programs offered at the Natural Areas, and develop new programs as the Natural Areas inventory grows, to promote interpretive, educational and appropriate recreational activities. (Strategic Initiative 6)